

I urge the FCC to tread cautiously on this topic. A mandated, hardware-based copy protection scheme could have far reaching, unintended, ramifications that would unduely burden the nascent digital broadcast industry and effectively curtail the long-standing fair-use rights of consumers.

Recent history has shown that any such system will be defeated by determined pirates proving only to be a minor inconvenience. But to the average, law-abiding citizen such draconian measures will prove confusing and cumbersome -- serving only to slow even further digital television's adoption.